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Torrance, California
October 22, 1940

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF TORRANCE

The City Council of the City of Torrance convened in a Regular Meeting in the Council Chamber, City Hall, Torrance, California, on Tuesday evening, October 22, 1940 at 7:45 P.M.

Mayor McGuire called the meeting to order.

Deputy Clerk Hallanger called the roll, those answering present being Councilmen: Babcock, Hitchcock, Murray, Powell and McGuire.
Absent: Councilmen: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the minutes of a Regular Meeting held October 8, 1940 be approved as written. Councilman Babcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Deputy Clerk Hallanger presented and read title to:

RESOLUTION NO. 1406

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF TORRANCE APPROVING SETTLEMENT
COVERING LIQUIDATION OF INDEBTEDNESS OF
1915 ACT DISTRICTS.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that Resolution No. 1406 be adopted. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Murray, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

A communication was read from Rubbercraft Corporation of California, Ltd., inquiring whether Ordinance No. 320 would be applicable to their (Rubbercraft's) business.

Mayor McGuire suggested that Attorney McCall determine whether or not said company had received a copy of Ordinance No. 320, copies having been mailed to all industrial and manufacturing firms within the City of Torrance, and assure the Rubbercraft Corporation of California, Ltd. that Ordinance No. 320 applies to all companies engaged in the production of essentials to national defense.

A communication was read from Frank Ackerman, 1729 Cabrillo Avenue, requesting removal of two pepper trees at 1724-1726 Martina Avenue, Councilman Hitchcock stated he had looked at the trees, and, although they are quite large, he said, they are healthy trees. He added that the trees could possibly be trimmed back.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the entire City Council, as a committee, make an inspection of the two trees in question, Monday, October 28, 1940 at 4:45 P.M. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from the Hollywood Development Company, signed by Clifford F. Reid, President, asking that the City discontinue dumping anything along the ocean at Hollywood Riviera. Councilman Hitchcock advised the Street Department had already complied with the request, and that notices had been posted prohibiting dumping in the section.

Mayor McGuire suggested that Mr. Reid be notified to this effect.

A communication was read from the Moneta Water Company, advising that water will be furnished by said water company at the rate of ten cents per tank load of approximately 1000 gallons per tank, and expressing appreciation for efforts of the City to improve the north section of the City.

Councilman Hitchcock explained that the Street Department had been endeavoring to plant trees in North Torrance; that the Moneta Water Company had been contacted in regard to getting water for same, and that the communication read was in answer to that request.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that the City Clerk be instructed to direct a letter to Mr. L. F. Stephenson, Secretary of the Moneta Water Company, thanking him for the agreeable offer made by his company to furnish water for irrigation of trees in North Torrance. Councilman Babcock seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A communication was read from Glenn M. Jain, Acting City Engineer, advising that a very dangerous condition exists at 2911 230th Street in the form of open and exposed sump holes filled several feet deep with water and oil. He recommended that the Southern California Drilling Company, owners, should be required to remedy this condition at once.

Mayor McGuire asked Attorney McCall whether or not the City could enclose the sump holes and bill the Southern California Drilling Company for same.

Attorney McCall offered to contact the oil company with reference to this matter and determine what, if anything, they propose to do about it. He said the company could be required to remedy the condition on the grounds that it is a public nuisance.

After a short period of discussion, Attorney McCall was instructed to contact the Southern California Drilling Company and request them to abate the nuisance.

Deputy Clerk Hallanger presented for first reading:

ORDINANCE NO. 321

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE
REQUIRING THE REGISTRATION OF ALL
FIREARMS.

Councilman Babcock moved that Ordinance No. 321 be adopted for first reading. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Murray, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$110.00, plus tax, be made for culvert pipe for use in North Torrance. Councilman Babcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Murray, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Hitchcock moved that an appropriation of not to exceed \$175.00, plus tax, be made for purchase of a fence for the property adjoining the Health Center property in compliance with a communication received from the Board of Supervisors of Los Angeles County dated October 2, 1940 and read at a regular meeting of the City Council held October 8, 1940. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Murray, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Councilman Babcock asked what had been done about the proposed Boys' Club project, advising he had read recently that the Federal Government is contemplating beginning certain projects which will be similar in nature to the proposed Boys' Club. Attorney McCall replied that he had discussed the matter at a League of Municipalities meeting. He said something had appeared in the newspapers in connection with the matter, the plan being, seemingly, to establish gymnasiums for the purpose of giving physical training to men within draft age.

Councilman Babcock moved that the City Clerk be instructed to write a letter to the Committee which signed the proposal for the Boys' Club, and ask for details as to upkeep of the building, and for a more specific estimate of the cost of the building. The motion was lost for want of a second.

After considerable discussion a short recess was declared while Councilman Murray and Councilman Babcock procured their copies of the proposal being discussed. Upon their return, the meeting was resumed.

Councilman Murray called attention to the fact that the Council had been criticized to some extent for not acting on this matter promptly, the opinion of some people being, he said, that the Council had held in its possession this proposal for a number of months, an erroneous impression, he said, the proposal having been received October 8, 1940, at which time the matter first came up for discussion.

Councilman Babcock moved that the City Clerk be instructed to communicate with the Chairman of the committee who signed the proposal for construction of a building to be known as a Boys' Club,

and request the committee to submit a more concrete plan before any arrangements are made for a meeting between the City Council and the committee for discussion of said plan. Councilman Murray seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Mayor McGuire moved that an appropriation of \$453.20 be made for 800 ft. 4" Cast iron pipe for the Water Department. Councilman Hitchcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote: AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Murray, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. W. T. Klusman complained about the condition of the water. He was advised that it has been impossible to flush the hydrants due to sewer operations in the Vista Highlands district, since to flush the hydrants would run water into the excavations which have been made for the new sewer line.

Mr. King, 1961 Plaza del Amo, asked again that an ordinance be adopted to keep business out of the residential district and to regulate height of fences in residential districts. He mentioned that a petition had recently been presented with this request but no action was taken.

Mr. John Elder, 1012 Cota Avenue, representing the Junior Chamber of Commerce, asked that an ordinance be passed to regulate parking on narrow streets, the suggestion being that the parking be limited to one side of narrow streets. He mentioned Amapola Avenue and Sierra Place as examples.

Mr. Albert Isen made a few comments pertaining to the proposal for a Boys' Club, stating he felt the need is for recreational facilities for boys, girls and adults, and not limited to boys.

Mr. Klusman asked why more houses are not being built in the City of Torrance. He said the property owned by Chanslor-Canfield Midway Oil Company should be utilized by construction thereon of houses and factories. He said that other communities which do not donate funds to the Chamber of Commerce are building any number of houses and factories.

Mr. Klusman asked why he had not received a copy of the new zoning ordinance. Mayor McGuire advised that as soon as the printed copies are off the press, one will be forwarded to Mr. Klusman.


Councilman Hitchcock moved all bills properly audited be paid. Councilman Babcock seconded the motion, which was carried by the following roll call vote. AYES: COUNCILMEN: Babcock, Hitchcock, Murray, Powell and McGuire. NOES: COUNCILMEN: None. ABSENT: COUNCILMEN: None.

Mayor McGuire moved that the City Council adopt a Resolution of Sympathy in commemoration of the passing of Mrs. Jared Sydney Torrance, doner and benefactress of the Torrance Memorial Hospital, and an outstanding citizen for many years.

At 8:50 P.M., upon motion of Councilman Hitchcock, seconded by Councilman Murray, the meeting adjourned.


City Clerk of the City of Torrance

Approved:


Mayor of the City of Torrance